NOTES ON A COLLECTION OF AUSTRALIAN AND OTHER MYRIAPODA.

By Walter W. Froggatt, F.L.S.

In 1912, Mr. Brölemann contributed a paper to the Records of the Australian Museum (Vol. ix., pp.37-75), dealing with the Myriapoda collection in that Institution. In this paper, he described a number of new species, and gave some interesting notes on the range of a number of Australian centipedes.

In 1914, I sent him a small collection, chiefly obtained in the western country of New South Wales, which he kindly determined, and also sent me the description of a new species, accompanied by drawings (postea).

SCOLOPENDRA MORSITANS Linn.

The type was described from India, but the species has a very wide distribution in other parts of the world. In Australia, it is the common centipede in the interior. I have specimens from West Australia, South Australia, Pera Bore, Bourke, and Brewarrina. In the western country, these centipedes live deep down in the dry, cracked soil; whence, when the heavy rains set in, and the billabongs and gilgis are flooded, they swarm out, and seek shelter under the dry bark on the tree-trunks, or fallen timber and logs. At our Experiment Camp at Yarrawin, northeast of Brewarrina, they were common in our tents in the rainy season. Mr. Brölemann has added the following notes on specimens sent—"No.3. Pera Bore, Darling River. The pink colour of the antennæ, and generally that of the body has no specific meaning, although I do not recollect having met with a similar case before. All other particulars are typical." Later on, he said—"With reference to these specimens, it is to be mentioned that the pleuræ are truncate instead of being provided with a process, and bear, near the inner angle, the two tiny spines which are typically found at the apex of the process. A similar structure is found now and then amongst Scolopendrids, but always bears the characters of an accidental, asymmetrical traumatism. The case of these specimens is different, as the symmetry is preserved, both pleure being perfectly alike in all the specimens examined. This, together with the fact that the dentate sternal plates of the maxillipedes are longer than usual, might represent a local race of the Linnean S. morsitans."

SCOLOPENDRA LÆTA Haase.

In the Australian Museum Collection, this species is recorded from Penrith, N.S.W. I have it from Gatton, Queensland; and Tumut and Nevertire, N.S.W.

Cormocephalus westwoodi Newport.

This is one of the common species about Syduey. I have it also from Gatton, Queensland; and Vila, New Hebrides.

Cormocephalus Brevispinatus L'K., subsp. sulcatus Bröl.

This is a common species in the west, at Brewarrina and Pera Bore, N.S.W., under logs. I have specimens also from Paterson River, N.S.W.

CORMOCEPHALUS AURANTIIPES Haase, subsp. MARGINATUS.

Specimens are in the Australian Museum from Port Stephens, and Parramatta, N.S.W. I have specimens from Gatton, Queensland; and others from Sydney.

CORMOCEPHALUS TURNERI POCOCK.

I collected this species at Vila, New Hebrides.

ETHONOSTIGMUS RUBRIPES Brandt.

Two specimens from Sydney are in my collection. The Australian Museum Collection contains specimens from Bourke and Wilcannia, N.S.W.; the Condamine River, Queensland; and the Solomon Islands.

RHYSIDA SUBINERMIS Meinart.

Two specimens from Sydney, and others from the Paterson River, N.S.W.

Otostigmus punctiventris Iomosvary.

Specimens from Vila, New Hebrides